



# **Loop 303 Opening Celebration**

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

Saturday, May 7, 2011

Thank you, John, and, good morning, everyone!

What a great day for Arizona!

Loop 303 is a wonderful example of what terrific things can come from the cooperation between State, Regional and Local Government partners -- and private industry.

They're partners who understand what opportunities transportation can create -- for people like us who drive the roads and highways -- for businesses -- for communities.

Transportation can be "the great facilitator" for business development and expansion across our state.

Throughout my entire public life I've been committed to removing regulatory hurdles and stimulating the engine of free enterprise -- but it is quite clear that without strong, diverse and far-reaching transportation corridors, that engine will stall.

We should all be heartened that the largest public-works investment in Arizona can be seen every day in our highways -- as people continue to understand Arizona and the Valley are attractive places to locate a business, attend school, start a family or retire.

In the past decade, ADOT has constructed more than 100 miles of new freeways in Metro Phoenix -- an accomplishment unheard of in most other urban areas.

Loop 303 -- the project we're celebrating today -- is the Second Chapter in the Valley's successful story of foresight and determination -- making critical connections between communities.

I know others will be discussing the vision and importance of Loop 303 for members of the Maricopa Association of Governments.

But, let me pause here to mention a great example of that foresight and determination -- the late Congressman Bob Stump, for whom a section of this highway is named.

Supervisor Wilson is going to talk about Congressman Stump later in the program, but I do want to recognize that Nancy Stump, is here -- along with members of her family -- to share in this celebration -- as we remember what a warrior Bob was for the entire West Valley.

This section of Loop 303 is the beginning of a new story. Work will continue this summer to transform Loop 303 into a full freeway all the way to Interstate 10 in Goodyear.

This work will create a long-promised corridor for the West Valley, create new jobs, and establish a critical link between Interstate 10 and Interstate 17.

Already, the corridor is seeing new businesses and job centers develop in Surprise, Glendale and Goodyear.

As our state continues to grow, we should follow this example, but also seek out new ways to create stronger connections between communities around the state, and beyond.

Certainly we have challenges ahead, but on this day -- it's appropriate that we celebrate how far we've come, and take pride in what we've accomplished together.

May God bless the men and women who imagined -- designed -- and built Loop 303 --  
May He bless our Great State of Arizona; and may God always bless and protect the United States of America.

Thank you.